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JAMAICA

USAID/JAMAICA— WEEKLY REPORT

August 20, 2012 Highlights:



Mission Director of USAID/Jamaica, Denise A. Herbol (center) is engaged in a conversation with the Principal of the Port Antonio High School during her visit to the school to view the progress of the USAID/Jamaica funded Tropical Storm Nicole Rehabilitation Project.



The above photo shows the greenhouse that was installed by the Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE) in Mile Gully, St. Mary under the USAID/Jamaica funded micro-enterprise based project. The USAID/Jamaica team is exploring the option of replicating the greenhouse at the Metcalfe Street Secure Juvenile Center in Kingston.

♦ **Tropical Storm Nicole Rehabilitation - Site Visit to Port Antonio High School** -Mission Director of USAID/Jamaica Ms. Denise A. Herbol paid a courtesy visit to the Port Antonio High School on August 15, 2012 to get first-hand information and assess the progress being made by the implementing contractor in the repair of the Industrial Arts Block of the school. Ms. Herbol had the opportunity to converse with the Ministry of Education (MOE) building officers, Senior Education Officer of Region 2, the Principal of Port Antonio High School, and the implementing contractor on the progress. The school repairs are nearing completion, and the MOE was tasked to re-visit the budget to ascertain whether critical electrical works which may impact the safe use of the building, may be accommodated under the existing budget.

♦ **USAID/Jamaica Team Visits Mile Gully and the Metcalfe Street Secure Juvenile Center for possible Green House implementation**— A team from USAID/Jamaica visited two greenhouses installed by the Local Initiative Facility for the Environment (LIFE) and the Agency for Inner City Renewal (AIR), both Development Grants Program funded projects, to determine which sample would best suit the Metcalfe Street Secure Juvenile Center in Kingston. Discussions ensued with Mr. Jervis Rowe (LIFE greenhouse installer) who accompanied the USAID/Jamaica team to Mile Gully, St. Mary and the Metcalfe Juvenile facility to inspect the proposed construction site and provide recommendations. In addition, to the greenhouse, arrangements are underway to have aquaponics facilities installed to rear fish to supplement the boys' dietary intake. The USAID team anticipates that the greenhouse and fish rearing training will afford the wards the opportunity to acquire new, highly sought after income-generating skills that could prove useful as they make the transition from incarceration back into their communities.

♦ **JNBS Foundation Cooperative Agreement**- The Jamaica National Building Society (JNBS) was recently awarded a Cooperative Agreement for the period July 2012 to June 2015, under the Social Enterprise Boost Initiative (SEBI). The focus of the project is to create an enabling environment for growth and development with the goal of 'mobilizing increased employment, investment and revenue within communities across Jamaica in a socially responsible manner and in so doing improve the nation's economic, social and environmental conditions'.



USAID/JAMAICA– WEEKLY REPORT

August 20, 2012 Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Road Opening and Project Close-out ceremony for the Tropical Storm Gustav Recovery Project** - The Charge d' Affaires Dr. Raymond L. Brown, Mission Director of USAID/Jamaica Ms. Denise A. Herbol and the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries the Honorable Roger Clarke will participate in the official Road Opening and Project Close-out ceremony of the Tropical Storm Gustav Recovery Project. This will be held on August 23, 2012. Under this project USAID/Jamaica donated USD\$3.2 million to assist with the agricultural sector's recovery and rural roads infrastructure repairs following the passage of Tropical Storm Gustav in 2008. Resources were targeted towards providing assistance to agricultural production of key crops, including coffee, repairs and improved drainage systems for 35 kilometers of roads, increased production and improved marketing of selected crops and the rehabilitation of coffee farms.
- ◆ **JaMIN Studio Launch and Song Competition**– USAID/Jamaica in collaboration with the Agency for Inner City Renewal (AIR) will be launching the Jamaica Music Institute (JaMIN) Studio and JaMIN Song Competition in recognition of Jamaica's and USAID's 50th anniversary. Under a USAID Grant awarded to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in support of the 'Youth Employment through Sustainable Livelihood' project, AIR was contracted to manage the construction of the JaMIN Studio. The JaMIN Studio constituted the urban component of the 'Youth Employment through Sustainable Livelihood' project, and was funded to the tune of US\$100,000. The song competition will be targeted at inner city youth (16-24 years) and will focus on development and youth empowerment. The launch will be held on September 5, 2012 at 4:30 pm in Trench Town, Kingston and the former Prime Minister of Jamaica the Most Honorable P. J. Patterson will be the guest speaker.

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